

Exhibit No. 11

Date 4-9-13

Bill No. HB2

**Whittenberg, Bruce**

**From:** Amy Sullivan <amy@mthistory.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 08, 2013 1:08 PM  
**To:** Whittenberg, Bruce  
**Subject:** Operation's support letter

Dear Sen. Rick Ripley, Chair, Senate Finance and Claims:

As one of the Montana Historical Society's (MHS) partners in history, we support full funding of MHS' operation's budget. The MHS does so much with so little and provides a service that goes far beyond the state's historical assets. Teaching Montanans about where they come from provides benefits above and beyond the here and now...and provides a sense of confidence that makes us all stronger.

Public support of our collective past is vitally important to our future and the work we all do. Your support enables those of us in the private nonprofit sector, like the Montana History Foundation, to come along side the state and provide additional support with private donor funds. One of the first questions we are asked when talking with donors is how much support the public sector is providing to preserve and protect the future of Montana's past.

Placing faith in the MHS means supporting their operations funding. It sends a message to all Montanans and supporters of Montana's history that the work they do is valued and worthy of additional private support.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Amy Sullivan

**Amy Sullivan** | President/CEO | **Montana History Foundation** | 1750 N Washington Street, Helena MT 59601 | 406.449.3770 office | 406.442.9602 fax | [amy@mthistory.org](mailto:amy@mthistory.org) | [www.mthistory.org](http://www.mthistory.org) |

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## Whittenberg, Bruce

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**From:** Egan, Kenneth <ken.egan@humanitiesmontana.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 08, 2013 10:37 AM  
**To:** Whittenberg, Bruce  
**Subject:** Support for Montana Historical Society in HB2

To: Senator Rick Ripley  
Chairman, Senate Finance and Claims Committee

Re: Support for Montana Historical Society

Dear Senator Ripley,

Thank you for your service to Montana.

I write to lend full and enthusiastic support for funding the Montana Historical Society at the highest possible level.

The Historical Society is not just vital but necessary for Montana.

Established in 1865, the Historical Society supports historical knowledge about our state through preservation, research, teacher and student programs, and support for museums throughout the state.

Many essential institutions in Montana's smaller communities simply could not survive without MHS.

I also believe in the saying that study of the past is the best preparation for the future. MHS serves Montana with a distinguished, hard-working, supportive staff. How can we imagine our future without their contributions?

As the state faces challenges in areas such as an aging population and energy development, our heritage matters more than ever.

Montana is so lucky to be blessed with natural beauty and extraordinary history. Virtually every Montanan takes pride in that heritage, as proved time and again by participation in historical commemorations, conferences, and the simple but vital act of reading (Montanans are among the largest per capita consumers of books in the country). The Montana Historical Society is the keeper and teacher of that history for all Montanans. We must do everything possible to sustain their services.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Ken Egan  
Executive Director  
**Humanities MONTANA**  
**LEARN • REFLECT • TOGETHER**  
humanitiesmontana.org  
311 Brantly, Missoula, MT 59812  
(406) 243-6022 or (800) 624-6001

Sen. Rick Ripley  
Chairman  
Senate Finance and Claims

Dear Senator Ripley,

I am writing to express my support for the Montana Historical Society. In addition to all the work apparent with the Montana Historical Society in Helena, the MHS also serves the crucial function of outreach and support to museums, organizations and schools across the state. The MHS produces content and makes available exciting exhibits for the museums in the state that have far-reaching benefits to all Montana residents, both now and well into the future. The research and preservation efforts of the Montana Historical Society's work are consistently in the best of the state. The funding made available to The Montana Historical Society operations supports residents in every corner of our vast state.

X The Montana Historical Society is also masterful in making resources go even farther through partnerships. For example, we are working together on an exhibit for next year. I am especially excited about the aspects of the project that will facilitate the teaching of history in the classroom by providing educators with the resources they need to present new insights into Montana's past in a way that is meaningful to and engaging for the students. I also appreciate the statewide scope of this effort, and the Society's efforts to gather input from and promote the resources of all areas of the Treasure State.

The loss of any funding for the Montana Historical Society would have repercussions across the state.

I would be more than happy to provide additional information or answer any questions. I can be reached at 406-690-4994.

Thank you for your service to our state.



Julie Dial  
Executive Director  
Western Heritage Center

Chair Humanities Montana

Western Heritage Center  
2822 Montana Avenue  
Billings, MT 59101



406-256-6809

[www.ywhc.org](http://www.ywhc.org)

[facebook.com/westernheritagecenter](https://facebook.com/westernheritagecenter)



Helena Tourism Alliance  
105 Reeder's Alley  
Helena, Montana 59601  
[www.helenamt.com](http://www.helenamt.com)  
406-449-1270

Dear Senator Rick Ripley,  
Chair, Finance and Claims Committee

I am writing on behalf of the nineteen Helena hotels that make up the Helena Tourism Alliance. The Helena Tourism Alliance's objective is to promote tourism to Helena, focusing on group tour travel, mountain biking tourism, and niche markets such as Geocaching. Traditionally, the group tour market has made some of the largest impacts on hotels in Helena.

As I travel nationally and promote Montana, one of the best attractions I can offer the tour planners is the Montana Historical Society. The displays, information and experience of the Montana Historical Society are what these tour planners are after. Over the last few months, I have attended the American Bus Association show in Charlotte, NC; the National Travel Association marketplace in Orlando, FL; Boomers in Groups in Milwaukee, WI; and Rocky Mountain International (foreign travel) is at the end of this week in Boise, ID. At all of these shows, I meet individually with these travel planners and they are all taken with what our Historical Society has to offer.

As you look at funding, please do not sacrifice the Montana Historical Society.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Heidi O'Brien".

Heidi O'Brien  
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patrick Doyle".

Patrick Doyle  
Community Outreach Director

## Whittenberg, Bruce

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**From:** Crystal and Dave Shors <dshors@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 08, 2013 3:03 PM  
**To:** Whittenberg, Bruce  
**Subject:** In Support of MHS Budget

To: Sen. Rick Ripley  
Chair, Senate Committee on Finance and Claims  
Montana's 63<sup>rd</sup> Legislative Assembly

c/o Bruce Whittenberg, Director Montana Historical Society

As an officer of the Board of Trustees of the Montana Historical Society, I offer the Board's complete support for the budget submitted by the Governor for the Society. The multifaceted work of the Historical Society benefits Montanans of all ages, from all walks of life and with a broad spectrum of interests and needs. The Montana Historical Society preserves Montana's memories and treasures, provides educational programs, research assistance and so much more. The Montana Historical Society was created in 1865 by the first Montana Territorial Legislature which recognized the importance of preservation to our future. Our 15 member governing Board supports and endorses the budget for the significant work of the Montana Historical Society.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Crystal Wong Shors  
Vice President MHS Trustees,  
For Steve Lozar, President and Members of the Board